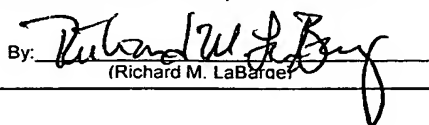


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By: 
(Richard M. LaBaffee)



Docket No.: 12010/36186A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Robert J. Libman, et al.)	Wringer mop with removable
)	mop head
Filed: June 27, 2003)	
)	Art Unit: 1744
Application Ser. No.: 10/608,325)	
)	Examiner: Randall Chin

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97, the applicants request that the references and information listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 form be considered during the prosecution of this application.

The applicants believe that this disclosure is timely under 37 CFR §1.97(b)(1) because it is being made within three months of the filing date of the application and the application was not filed as a continued prosecution application. Indeed, the Office's June 30, 2003 order granting the applicants' petition to withdraw the parent application from issuance specifically found that the application was abandoned in favor of a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b), not 1.53(d).

A copy of each reference listed on the attached form is attached. The information listed in the "other information" section of the form is explained more fully below:

In January of 1999, the Libman Company attended the annual Housewares Show held in Chicago, Illinois, where it demonstrated an initial version of a "Nitty Gritty" roller mop to retail accounts. The show was not open to the public.

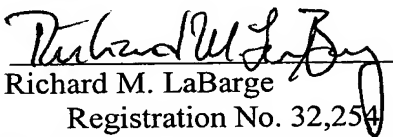
The same initial version of the mop was subsequently sold to retailers beginning at least as early as February, 1999. Photographs of the product are enclosed.

The undersigned believes that the initial version of the mop had all the elements recited in the current version of claims 1, 4, and 6-23 of the present application.

Please consider these references and information and issue an appropriate action.

Dated: September 26, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Richard M. LaBarge
Registration No. 32,254
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233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357
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PTO/SB/08a/b (06-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/608,325
				Filing Date	June 27, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Robert J. Libman
				Art Unit	1744
				Examiner Name	Randall Chin
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	12010/36186A

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		377,955	02-14-1888	O'Blenus	
		3,727,259	04-17-1973	Wilson	
		5,097,561	03-24-1992	Torres	figs. 9, 5-7

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		FR2,767,465	02-26-1999	Hsui		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Presentation of initial version of "Nitty Gritty" roller mops at private trade show, January, 1999	
		Sale of initial version of "Nitty Gritty" roller mops to retail accounts as early as February, 1999	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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